

Appl. No. 10/763,737

Reply to Office action of February 4, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response to the outstanding action. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 3-6 have been amended to place the application in a better form for consideration. No new matter has been introduced. Claims 1-6 are now pending and submitted for consideration. Please note that the claims are miscounted in the office action, wherein claims 5 and 6 are referred to erroneously as claims 6 and 7.

Section 102 Rejection

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by De Lorenzo (US Patent 6493233). This rejection is respectfully traversed in that the patent to De Lorenzo neither discloses nor remotely suggests what is presently set forth by Applicant's claimed invention.

De Lorenzo discloses a printed circuit board (PCB)-to-chassis mount. As shown in FIGs. 1A and 1B, embodiment 10 includes a threaded fastener 12 and a press-in internally-threaded mounting post 14, which includes a shoulder 15, a minor diameter portion 16 with a diameter D_1 and a major diameter portion 17 having a diameter D_2 (column 3, lines 2-5). Also as depicted in FIG. 1A, PCB board 18 includes a through hole 22 having a diameter D_3 that is sized relative to diameter D_1 of mounting post 14 to allow for manufacturing tolerances such that each hole 22 in a hole pattern formed in PCB 18 will be positioned to receive a minor diameter portion 16 of a respective mounting post 14. According, in De Lorenzo 's disclosure, the PCB, which is to be mounted to the chassis, is required to have a hole defined therein through which a portion of the internally-threaded standoff passes through upon assembly (claims 1 and 6).

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As the Examiner can readily appreciate, independent claim 1 of the pending application is directed to a connection device for connecting a first shell of a first electronic product to a second shell of a second electronic product. The first shell has a wall, and the wall defines a recession. Particularly, the connection device comprises a rivet pin. The rivet pin has a first end and a second end. The first end is provided with threads and is received by the recession using the threads. The second end attaches the second shell for connecting the second shell to the first shell. Also, independent claim 5 of the pending application is directed to a connection device for connecting a rivet device for connecting a fan to a first shell of a first electronic product. The first shell has a wall, and the wall defines a recession. The fan has a second shell having at least a second hole. Particularly, the connection device comprises a rivet pin and a rivet body. The rivet pin has a first end and a second end. The first end is provided with threads and is received by the recession using the threads. The rivet body is inserted into the second hole for connecting to the second shell. The rivet body is provided with a slot allowing the second end to pass through and to engage with the rivet body. Clearly, these limitations are nowhere to be found in the De Lorenzo reference.

It is initially noted that one feature of the present invention lies in a rivet pin 200 as shown in Figs. 3 and 4. The rivet pin 200 has a first end 200a, a second end 200b, and/or a bolt head 210. The first end 200a is provided with threads 212 and is received by the recession 111b that is defined by the wall 111c of the first shell 111a. The recession 111b is more appropriate than the through hole 22 of De Lorenzo when the first shell 111a is thick or the though hole of the first shell 111a is unavailable. In addition, the thread 212 engages the recession 111b to secure the connection between the rivet pin 200 and the first shell 111a. It is advantageous when the

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rivet pin 200 connects the first shell 111a to a vibrating object, for example, a fan 222 as shown in Fig. 4.

However in De Lorenzo, upon assembly, keepout pad 24 is in contact with the head of threaded fastener 12, while pad 26 is in contact with shoulder 16 of mounting post 14, as shown in FIG. 1B (column 3, lines 46-49). Those skilled in the art should know that the friction provided by the pad 24 and 26 of De Lorenzo is quite different than the one provided by the thread 212 of the present invention. Furthermore, in De Lorenzo, the PCB 18 and the threaded fastener 12 cannot be secured together without the chassis 20. However, the present invention allows the rivet pin 200 to be pre-secured to the first shell 111a without the connection with the second shell, as shown in Fig. 3.

Therefore De Lorenzo, relying on the through hole on the PCB which is to be mounted, fails to teach a connection device in accordance with the present invention for connecting a first shell of a first electronic product to a second shell of a second electronic product or for connecting a fan to a first shell of a first electronic product. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Applicant's claimed invention, as set forth in independent claims 1 and 5, as well as dependent claims 2-4, and 6 which include all the limitations of claim 1 or claim 5, is clearly not anticipated by De Lorenzo and is in proper condition for allowance.

In view of Applicant's amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that Examiner's rejections under 35 USC § 102, have been overcome. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the application, as amended, is now in condition for allowance, and such allowance is therefore earnestly requested. Should the Examiner have any questions or wish to further discuss this application, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the Applicants' attorneys at 480 385-5060.

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If for some reason Applicants have not requested a sufficient extension and/or have not paid a sufficient fee for this response and/or for the extension necessary to prevent abandonment on this application, please consider this as a request for an extension for the required time period and/or authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 50-2091 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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